

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 102081

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P 012205Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 102081

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, PFOR, UK, AV, SC, RQ

SUBJECT: DOG ISLAND

REFER: BRIDGETOWN 0688, LONDON 06484

1. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES BEING ADVISED OF PRESS REPORT OF BRADSHAW REACTION TO DOG ISLAND PROPOSAL, AND WILL CONTINUE TO LOOK TO EMBASSY BRIDGETOWN FOR REPORTING ON SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS WHICH RELATE TO THIS IMPORTANT MATTER.

2. FROM OUTSET, WE HAVE SHARED HMG'S CONCERN OVER THE POSSIBLE IMPACT OF DOG ISLAND DISCUSSIONS ON UNRESOLVED CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUE BETWEEN ST. KITTS AND ANGUILLA. RECOGNIZING THAT ITS RESOLUTION IS HMG'S PROBLEM ALONE, WE HAVE ENDEAVORED TO AVOID ANY OFFICIAL CONTACT WITH EITHER THE ST. KITTS OR ANGUILLAN ADMINISTRATIONS ON THE DOG ISLAND QUESTION AND HAVE CONFINED OURSELVES ENTIRELY TO THE LONDON CHANNEL ON THIS MATTER. HMG HAS MADE IT CLEAR IN OUR DISCUSSIONS TO DATE THAT THIS IS ALSO THEIR STRONG PREFERENCE. WE CONTINUE TO FEEL THAT OUR DIALOGUE SHOULD BE WITH LONDON, EVEN RECOGNIZING THAT IN THE PAST THERE HAVE BEEN OCCASION-
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PAGE 02 STATE 102081

AL, QUASI-OFFICIAL CONVERSATIONS INVOLVING THE PUERTO

RICANS, ANGUILLANS, AND BRADSHAW, AND THAT WE SHOULD LEAVE IT TO LONDON TO KEEP ST. KITTS AND ANGUILLA INFORMED, JUST AS IT CONTINUES TO BE OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO KEEP SAN JUAN UP TO SPEED ON MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS.

3. WE VERY MUCH WELCOME EMBASSY BRIDGETOWN'S REPORTING AND ANALYSIS ON THIS PROBLEM AND WE WILL DO OUR BEST TO KEEP YOU ABREAST OF DEVELOPMENTS. YOU SHOULD INDEED USE THE GUIDANCE IN LONDON'S 05799 IF NEED ARISES, BUT WE WOULD PREFER THAT BRADSHAW AND THE ANGUILLANS BE REFERRED TO LONDON SHOULD THEY WISH TO DISCUSS DOG ISLAND IN ANY DEPTH OR DETAIL.

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